



## **RULES & POLICIES**

1. To be eligible for participation in the Picture Hocking Hills photo competition, a photographer must agree to and abide by all Rules & Policies associated with the competition. A physical signature will be required on the first day when picking up your packet. This agreement is necessary to enter.
2. Picture Hocking Hills is open to photographers of all ages, skill levels, and types of camera used as long as the photographer enters the appropriate division.
3. Picture Hocking Hills judges and volunteers cannot enter the competition. Judges have the final say in all decisions.
4. There are two divisions in which photographers may enter: Amateur and Professional. You must choose which division best represents your skill level.
5. All photos must be taken in Hocking County and the counties that border it including: Athens County, Fairfield County, Vinton County, and Perry County.
6. Photographs that are entered **MUST** have been taken during the allotted competition time of 3 pm on 5/17 until 2 pm on 5/18.

7. The Categories are:

- Landscape
- Flora and Fauna
- Wildcard
- People in Nature.

8. The categories are defined as:

- **Landscape** is defined as a scenic view or overview of a particular region or land, showing an area's terrain and/or diversity in ecosystem(s) It may include landmarks and geological highlights, as well as land, sky, and bodies of water. While it may include wildlife and/or people, emphasis should be on the habitat or terrain.

- **Flora and Fauna** is defined as non-artificial plant, plant life, wildlife or part thereof. Preference will be given to native Ohio plants and wildflowers. Remember to leave no trace by not picking or damaging wild plants. This is strictly prohibited.

Remember, if you are photographing wildlife to practice safety and leave plenty of room between you and the animal.

- **Wildcard** is defined as a photo that does not specifically fit into any one category.

- **Humans in nature:** We love to see hikers, walkers, and all kinds of people out in the Hocking Hills region! We will provide photo release forms for photos that include people who can be easily identified. The form **MUST** be submitted. If the form is not submitted with the photo, it will be immediately disqualified.

9. No entry may be vulgar; offensive to ethnic, religious, or minority groups; or determined by the judges to be unsuitable for "family" viewing. Photographers

are strongly advised to use their best judgment to ensure an entry is "appropriate." Judges have the right to disqualify any entry. All decisions by the judges are final.

10. After a round of pre-judging (each division judged separately), final entries will be scored by five judges independently following the judging rubric.

11. Photographers may enter up to a total of 3 entries in the appropriate division but no more than two in any one category.

**12. Photos may be edited. Jpeg files must be submitted only. See Editing Policy for more information.**

13. While the copyright of the winning images belongs to the respective photographers, the photos may be published or printed and used by officials of Picture Hocking Hills, Hocking Hills Tourism Association, Hocking Hills State Park, Friends of Hocking Hills State Park, Ohio State Parks, competition sponsors, and/or its designees for editorial uses, promotional purposes, advertising, and/or the production of merchandise items relating to the event. No additional compensation (other than the original prize) will be made to photographers, and a photographer's eligibility in this competition is contingent upon this agreement. Proper photo credit will be given to each published photograph; in the event of an erroneous oversight or misprint, the publishing company, the magazine, the competition officials, and related agencies will not be held liable for real or perceived "damages."

14. Photographers of Picture Hocking Hills agree that any and all photographs or images made of them or their likeness during the competition may be published and/or reproduced by officials of Picture Hocking Hills, Hocking Hills Tourism Association, Hocking Hills State Park, Friends of Hocking Hills State Park, Ohio State Parks, and/or any of its designees for editorial uses, promotional purposes,

and/or advertising relating to the event. His/her name may or may not be published as identification. No compensation will be made to photographers.

15. Photographers and/or their families will hold harmless officials and judges of Picture Hocking Hills, Hocking Hills Tourism Association, Hocking Hills State Park, Friends of Hocking Hills State Park, Ohio State Parks, event partners, and their employees and/or volunteers in the event of loss, personal injury, or death as a result of participating in Shoot the Hills Photo Competition. Photographers are solely responsible for their own well-being, safety, and protection—even though safety rules and/or regulations may be in place in designated areas. A photographer's eligibility in this competition is contingent upon this agreement. In the case of a photographer under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must consent to these terms and conditions.

16. Additional rules, regulations, and restrictions may be added by Picture Hocking Hills officials as a condition of participation in this event if it is deemed necessary by its governing officials. Likewise, existing rules, regulations, and restrictions may be changed if it is deemed necessary by its officials, and these conditions are open to interpretation only by the competition judges and officials.

**I agree to the rules and procedures:**

**Name:**

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